

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the fourth paragraph on page 16 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

The interaction of the distance sensor 28 takes place only via the active surface 32 which defines the sensor field ~~[[24]]~~ 42 in its configuration and positioning relative to the workpiece. The distance sensor 28 with its detector head 30 can be positioned locally on the workpiece 34 and interaction then takes place locally between the detector head 30 and the workpiece 34 by means of a local sensor field. If a burr is located in the sensor field 42, the electromagnetic (inductive) coupling between the active surface 32 and the workpiece 34 is influenced as a result and the output signal 52 is altered accordingly. As a result, local information is obtained concerning the workpiece, namely whether a burr is present, when the signal is altered accordingly and quantitative information can, on the other hand, be obtained concerning the burr from the signal alteration itself.